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THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH: It is not only the price structure that is responsible. There are other causes for it. There is the interest on capital, and there are depreciation charges. More than these, the milk supply, as I just now pointed out, from Madhavaram is sold at controlled prices much lower than the market price.

Madhavaram Milk Project

3-2 p.m. *195 Q.—SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR: Will the Hon the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of milch and other cattle available at Madhavaram Project during 1962 to 1964;

(*b*) the present strength of the above categories;

(*c*) whether any allowance or aid is given to the owners of the cattle; and

(*d*) the total number of milch and other cattle maintained by the Government in the above Project?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH: (*a*)—

	Buffaloes.		Cows.		Total.	
	Milch.	Dry.	Milch.	Dry.	Milch.	Dry.
1st April 1962	1,603	37	607	46	2,210	83
1st April 1963	1,763	90	1,472	145	3,235	235
1st April 1964	1,498	44	2,300	146	3,798	190
1st April 1965	1,019	39	1,120	44	2,139	83
(*b*) 12th October 1965	722	21	955	17	1,677	38

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) Under the Calf Rearing Scheme there are at present 77 cow calves and 22 buffalo calves taken from the owners free of cost to be reared in the Colony. This scheme of departmental rearing is being given up in favour of a scheme for grant of subsidy to owners. Thirty dry cows and 52 dry buffalos are being maintained by the Department.

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR: What is the reason for the reduction in the number of cattle in the year 1965?

THE HON SRI V. RAMAIAH: A separate question may be put.

DR. H. V. HANDE: Is it a fact that in the Madhavaram Colony there are a number of casuarina trees and that by eating these leaves the cows prematurely give birth and that this is the reason for a number of calves not being born? Is it because of the cashewnut trees? If so, what steps have the Government taken to prevent the planting of these trees?

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THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : There are a number of Veterinary Surgeons. If we receive a complaint that it is due to the eating of the leaves of cashewnut trees, the matter is attended to.

DR. H. V. HANDE : Is the Madhavaram Colony producing enough grass for the requirements of the cows and buffaloes and calves of the Colony?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : If the hon. Member understands how the Madhavaram Colony works, then he can put the question. All these cows and buffaloes are not owned by the Government as such. These are owned by private people who get accommodation facilities and other such help. Recently, because we have land, the Project officers have taken up the cultivation of grass so that it can be supplied on payment of price to the owners of cattle.

DR. H. V. HANDE : There is a lot of land in Madhavaram Colony where casuarina trees are grown. Instead of this, is it not possible for the Government to fell these trees which are injurious to calves and plant grass? There will be sufficient grass for the Madhavaram Colony also.

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : Grass plantation has also been taken up.

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Rearing of cattle in Madhavaram for the last three or four years has become expensive and the owners want to sell away the cattle because of heavy loss.

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : It is not so in a large number of cases. There are still people who do make use of the facilities that are available in the Colony.

Installation of pumpsets on the banks of rivers

* 196 Q.—SRI N. R. THIAGARAJAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government issued orders permitting the pumping of water for cultivation by the installation of pumpsets on the banks of rivers and canals; and

(b) whether the order was rescinded subsequently?

THE HON SRI V. RAMAIAH : (a) In December 1962, the Government issued orders that the pumpsets installed without permission up to and inclusive of 2nd October 1961 on the banks of the Cauvery, Bhavani and Amaravathi rivers and their channels in Salem, Coimbatore and Tiruchirappalli districts be regularised subject to certain conditions. Other cases of permits for pumping from main rivers or channels should come up to Government.

(b) No.